

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act Concerning Animal Control Officers as Mandated Reporters of Abuse

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3477, sub-§1, ¶A, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 653, §9, is amended to read:

A. While acting in a professional capacity:

(1) An allopathic or osteopathic physician;

(2) A medical intern;

(3) A medical examiner;

(4) A physician's assistant;

(5) A dentist;

(6) A chiropractor;

(7) A podiatrist;

(8) A registered or licensed practical nurse;

(9) A certified nursing assistant;

(10) A social worker;

(11) A psychologist;

(12) A pharmacist;

(13) A physical therapist;

- (14) A speech therapist;
- (15) An occupational therapist;
- (16) A mental health professional;
- (17) A law enforcement official;
- (18) Emergency room personnel;
- (19) An ambulance attendant;
- (20) An emergency medical technician;
- (21) Unlicensed assistive personnel;
- (22) A humane agent employed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources;
~~or~~
- (23) A clergy member acquiring the information as a result of clerical professional work except for information received during confidential communications; and
- (24) An animal control officer as defined in Title 7, section 3907, subsection 4;

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3477, sub-§1, ¶B, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 653, §9, is amended to read:

B. Any person who has assumed full, intermittent or occasional responsibility for the care or custody of the incapacitated or dependent adult, regardless of whether the person receives compensation; or

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §4011-A, sub-§1, ¶A, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 599, §8 and as affected by §§9 and 14, is amended to read:

A. When acting in a professional capacity:

- (1) An allopathic or osteopathic physician, resident or intern;

- (2) An emergency medical services person;
- (3) A medical examiner;
- (4) A physician's assistant;
- (5) A dentist;
- (6) A dental hygienist;
- (7) A dental assistant;
- (8) A chiropractor;
- (9) A podiatrist;
- (10) A registered or licensed practical nurse;
- (11) A teacher;
- (12) A guidance counselor;
- (13) A school official;
- (14) A children's summer camp administrator or counselor;
- (15) A social worker;
- (16) A court-appointed special advocate or guardian ad litem for the child;
- (17) A homemaker;
- (18) A home health aide;
- (19) A medical or social service worker;

- (20) A psychologist;
- (21) Child care personnel;
- (22) A mental health professional;
- (23) A law enforcement official;
- (24) A state or municipal fire inspector;
- (25) A municipal code enforcement official;
- (26) A commercial film and photographic print processor;
- (27) A clergy member acquiring the information as a result of clerical professional work except for information received during confidential communications;
- (28) A chair of a professional licensing board that has jurisdiction over mandated reporters; ~~and~~
- (29) A humane agent employed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources; and
- (30) An animal control officer as defined in Title 7, section 3907, subsection 4;

SUMMARY

This bill adds animal control officers to the list of professionals who are mandated to report suspected cases of abuse of children and incapacitated or dependent adults.